

how to create an "elevator pitch" to grow and expand their businesses.

Owensboro is a historic and beautiful city and the chamber continues to work to make it an even better place to live for future generations. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce and congratulate them on this incredible achievement.

IN HONOR OF DAVID W. THOMAS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize a great Delawarean, David W. Thomas, for his outstanding service to our great state. Dave was the United States Marshal for the District of Delaware from August 2002 until August 2010. As he moves on to future endeavors, I wish him the best of luck and pay tribute to his great accomplishments and steadfast service to our state.

Serving in the Delaware State Police from 1984 to 2002, Dave served as a road trooper before joining the Executive Protection Unit, responsible for the protection of the Governor and other dignitaries. During my time as Governor, I had the pleasure of getting to know Dave who proved himself to be a dedicated officer through his tireless dedication to the Executive Protection Unit and the state of Delaware. Dave quickly excelled throughout his career with the state police. His many other accomplishments include being elected Vice President of the National Governors Security Administration and serving as the Public Information Officer for the Delaware State Police. After an extraordinary career with the Delaware State Police, Dave was privileged to serve as the U.S. Marshal for the District of Delaware.

In his eight-year tenure as U.S. Marshal, Dave was tasked with many difficult duties including the transportation and housing of Federal prisoners, fugitive apprehension, and the security of Federal judges and U.S. Attorney's Office and staff. One of his more noteworthy accomplishments occurred in April 2009 when Dave led a Fugitive Safe Surrender initiative in which over a thousand individuals with outstanding warrants turned themselves in.

I am proud to represent a state where individuals like David W. Thomas reside. Delawareans will sorely miss his steadfast service to our great state. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE BOLEN FAMILY
AS THE 2010 WALTON COUNTY
OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF
THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today to extend congratulations to the Bolen family for being selected as the 2010 Walton County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year.

Bill and Melissa Bolen, along with their five sons, reside on a twenty-five acre farm fondly named "Welcome Home Farm." Raymond, Justin, Jesse, Timmy and Mike are home-schooled and contribute greatly to the daily workings on the farm. The family raises sheep, goats, cows, chickens and other fowl, free of hormone treatment and chemical products. Their chickens provide both eggs and meat for the dinner table, and their Gulf Coast sheep provide one of the highest quality wool fibers available.

The self-sufficient methods used on the "Welcome Home Farm" provide an idyllic example of a farm family promoting a healthy and sustainable life through their farm practices. The Bolen family is proof that a tight-knit family working together on a modest-sized tract can live a successful farming lifestyle.

Madam Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families. The Bolen family serves as an excellent model to all our nation's farm families. On behalf of northwest Florida, I wish the Bolen family continued success.

HONORING MARVIN MEYERS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Marvin Meyer for receiving the 2010 Agriculturalist of the Year. Marvin Meyers has had a long and distinguished career in the California agriculture industry, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

Mr. Meyers has owned and operated Meyers Farming I-IV, Oxford Farms, Inc. and Meyers Farm Family Trust, as well as the Meyers Agricultural Chemical Company. Additionally, Mr. Meyers was a member of the California State Board of Food and Agriculture.

Mr. Meyers has been an independent voice in the drought and water concerns that have plagued the valley for years. He built his own water bank to store water in wet years and withdraw resources in dry years. In 2002 he began pumping water from the Mendota Poo into the ponds next to the sugar plant. He was able to complete this project without drawing on taxpayer funding. This site has been helpful for wildlife habitats, and has been an educational outreach to the community, as over 2,000 students have visited the site on fieldtrips in the last two years.

Additionally, Governor Schwarzenegger announced that Meyers Farms would receive the 2007 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award for its Water Bank and Wildlife Project. This is California's most prestigious environmental honor.

Marvin Meyers has earned his reputation of being a hard worker, an intelligent and innovative agriculturalist. He is a recognized leader in our community and it is clear that his endeavors and advancements in California agriculture will continue to sustain our state's economy for generations to come. Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Marvin Meyers for a job well done.

COMMENDING USO FORT DRUM

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the continuing relationship between our men and women serving in our Armed Forces and the communities that support them in their mission. In northern New York, the soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division and their families have been a part of our community for nearly three decades. Throughout the Division's time in the North Country, residents in the surrounding area have gone out of their way to make the Fort Drum community a productive environment for the U.S. Army to grow and train, and a welcoming place for soldiers to live, serve and retire with their families.

The United Service Organization, or USO, has played a leading role in that effort. From providing high quality morale, welfare and recreation activities for our troops in the field to making sure they are adequately recognized for their service when they return, the USO is doing incredible work to support the men and women whose work preserves our way of life.

I rise today to commend the USO Fort Drum for their ongoing efforts to support our troops, and ask that my colleagues would join me in commending their work to improve the lives of our military and their families.

RECOGNIZING OF THE BIRMINGHAM OPTIMIST CLUB ON
THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO THE
COMMUNITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Birmingham Optimist Club on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary of service to the community. As a Member of Congress, it is both my honor and privilege to recognize this outstanding community organization on achieving this most impressive milestone.

Since its inception in 1960, the Birmingham Optimist Club has operated with the mission of "Bringing Out the Best in Kids." To this end, the Club has focused on sponsoring activities which promote a philosophy of optimism in one's daily life, encourage the development of youth, highlight the importance of service to others as a key component of one's own well-being and promote the development of friendship through social and business networking. In keeping with these principles, the Club offers a strong array of multi-faceted programs which offer our youth the keys to developing the skills, passion and community-minded focus necessary to become our next generation of leaders.

Throughout the years, the Birmingham Optimist Club has sponsored a number of activities, programs, and events centered on promoting the future of our youth. For over 35 years, the Club has offered an annual oratorical contest, which prepares high school students for the professional world by providing